

Case 3375

***Fidia* Baly, 1863 and *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863 (Insecta, Coleoptera):
proposed conservation of usage**

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Abstract. The purpose of this application, under Articles 23.9.3, 67.11 and 81.2.1 of the Code, is to conserve the usage of the generic names *Fidia* Baly, 1863 and *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863 for leaf beetle genera by suppressing the name *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860 (senior homonym of *Fidia* Baly, 1863 and senior synonym of *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863). Conservation would confer the greatest stability in the naming of these chrysomelid taxa.

Keywords. Nomenclature; taxonomy; Coleoptera; CHRYSOMELIDAE; EUMOLPINAE; *Fidia*; *Lypesthes*; *Lypesthes atra*; *Fidia lurida*; leaf beetles.

1. The name *Fidia* was first used by Dejean (1836, p. 412) in fascicle five of the second edition of his catalogue and not on p. 436 of fascicle five of the third edition published in 1837 as indicated by several authors (Chapuis, 1874; Johnson & Hammar, 1910; Schultz, 1970). Dejean listed two species, *F. lurida* Dejean, 1836 (p. 412) and *F. murina* Dejean 1836 (p. 412), under *Fidia* but provided no description, definition, or indication for either of these new species names, and they are nomina nuda. Because the two species names included by Dejean were not available, *Fidia* Dejean, 1836 (p. 412) does not meet the criteria of availability for a genus-group name (Article 12 of the Code – Names published before 1931) and is a nomen nudum.

2. Sturm (1843, p. 295) treated *Colaspis flavescens*, a name he had proposed in his previous catalogue (1826, p. 123), as a subjective synonym of *Fidia lurida*. *Colaspis flavescens* Sturm, 1826 is a nomen nudum because Sturm listed the name without providing a description, definition or indication for the species. Its inclusion in *Fidia* as a synonym of *Fidia lurida* Dejean, 1836 (p. 412) did not alter the nomenclatural status of *F. lurida* or *C. flavescens* and they remained nomina nuda.

3. Motschulsky (1860, p. 22) described a new species of beetle from Japan under the name *Fidia atra*. Motschulsky's species description, in combination with the generic name *Fidia*, constitutes an indication for the latter, thereby making the name available.

4. Baly (1863, p. 157) established the genus *Lypesthes* with *Fidia atra* Motschulsky, 1860 as the type species by monotypy.

5. Baly (1863, p. 153) also provided a generic description of what he believed to be Dejean's (1836, p. 412) genus *Fidia* and designated *Fidia lurida* Dejean, 1836 as its type species. This description made the name *Fidia* Baly, 1863 available for this genus-group taxon and served as an indication for the new species *Fidia lurida* Baly, 1863 (p. 153) (Article 12.2.6 of the Code – Combined description). Both names (*Fidia* and *Fidia lurida*) take authorship and date from Baly (1863), even though Baly (1863) attributed them to Dejean (1836). Several recent authors (Wilcox, 1975; Seeno & Wilcox, 1982; Arnett, 1985; LeSage, 1991) followed Schultz (1970) who incorrectly attributed authorship of *Fidia* sensu Baly (1863) to Walsh (1867, p. 88).

6. Since Baly's publication in 1863, the name *Lypesthes* has been exclusively and consistently applied as the valid name for the Oriental and Palearctic genus-group taxon established on the type species *Fidia atra* Motschulsky, 1860, and this usage is firmly established in the world literature (Chapuis, 1874; Gemminger & Harold, 1874; Jacoby, 1908; Clavareau, 1914; Chûjô, 1956; Gressitt & Kimoto, 1961; Kimoto, 1964, 1971; Kimoto & Gressitt, 1966, 1982; Seeno & Wilcox, 1982, and others). Likewise, *Fidia* Baly, 1863 (type species *Fidia lurida* Baly, 1863), which is a junior homonym of *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860 (type species *Fidia atra* Motschulsky, 1860), has been exclusively and consistently applied to the Nearctic and Neotropical genus-group taxon established on the type species *F. lurida* Baly, 1863. Although *F. lurida* Baly is the valid name of this taxon according to the Principle of Priority (Article 23.1 of the Code), no subsequent author has recognized it as such. *Fidia viticida* Walsh, 1867 (p. 87) has been used by all subsequent authors (Chapuis, 1874; Gemminger & Harold, 1874; Clavareau, 1914; Seeno & Wilcox, 1982; Arnett, 1985 and others). The use of *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860 instead of *Fidia* Baly, 1863 and *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863 would seriously disturb stability and cause confusion. It is proposed that the name *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860 (a senior homonym of *Fidia* Baly, 1863 and senior synonym of *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863) is suppressed to maintain stability.

7. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to suppress the following names:
 - (a) *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860 and all uses of the name before that by Baly (1863) for the purposes of both the Principle of Priority and the Principle of Homonymy;
 - (b) *lurida* Baly, 1863, as published in the binomen *Fidia lurida*, for the purposes of the Principle of Priority but not for those of the Principle of Homonymy;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Fidia* Baly, 1863 (gender: feminine), type species by original designation *Fidia lurida* Baly, 1863;
 - (b) *Lypesthes* Baly, 1863 (gender: feminine), type species by monotypy *Fidia atra* Motschulsky, 1860;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *viticida* Walsh, 1867, as published in the binomen *Fidia viticida*, valid name of the specific name of the type species of *Fidia* Baly, 1863, following the suppression of its senior synonym *Fidia lurida* Baly, 1863 in (1)(b) above;

- (b) *atra* Motschulsky, 1860, as published in the binomen *Fidia atra* (specific name of the type species of *Lypsthes* Baly, 1863);
- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the name *Fidia* Motschulsky, 1860, as suppressed in (1)(a) above;
- (5) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology the name *lurida* Baly, 1863, as published in the binomen *Fidia lurida* and as suppressed in (1)(b) above.

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Comments on this case are invited for publication (subject to editing) in the *Bulletin*; they should be sent to the Executive Secretary, I.C.Z.N., Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K. (e-mail: iczn@nhm.ac.uk).